

PATENT
450101-03210**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-13, 25-39, 54-67 and 100-113 are currently pending. Of the pending claims, claims 1, 12, 13, 25, 38, 39, 54, 66, 67, 100, 112 and 113 are independent. Claims 13, 39, 67 and 113 are hereby amended.

Claims 14-24, 40-53, 68-99 and 114-132 were previously withdrawn from consideration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.142(b) without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Of the withdrawn claims, claims 24, 53, 79, 79, 90, 99, 125 and 132 have been amended.

Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 13, 39, 67 and 113 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants do not concede that these claims, as-filed, are directed to non-statutory subject matter. However, claims 13, 39, 67 and 113 are amended to facilitate prosecution and clarify the subject matter to which the claims are directed.

In an illustrative example, amended claim 13 recites, *inter alia*:

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"A computer-readable recording medium having recorded thereon a program executable by a processor . . . said method comprising: . . ."

Amended claim 13 recites, "A computer-readable recording medium," which is a physical component. Thus, claim 13 is undeniably directed to statutory subject matter.

Claims 39, 67 and 113 have been similarly amended. For reasons similar or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 13, independent claims 39, 67 and 113 are also believed to be patentable.

II. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

Claims that are dependent from one of the claims discussed above also are believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

III. CLAIMS 1-12, 25-38, 54-66 AND 100-112

The Office Action Summary indicates that claims 1-12, 25-38, 54-66 and 100-112 are rejected. However, there are no grounds for rejection provided within the Office Action. Applicants submit that these claims also are patentable.

Applicants submit further that a subsequent Office Action directed to claims 1-12, 25-38, 54-66 and 100-112 would necessarily be a non-Final Action.

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450101-03210**CONCLUSION**

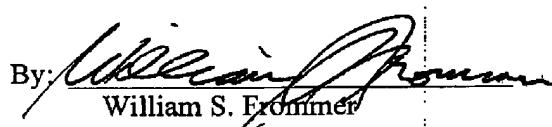
Claims 1-13, 25-39, 54-67 and 100-113 are in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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